D/L 1-49

U. S. DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

ROUTE SLIP

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APPROVAL COMME	NT	X YOUR INFORMATION
NECESSARY ACTION SIGNAT	URE	NOTE AND RETURN
CONTACT ME AS REQ	UESTED	PREPARE REPLY
From: (NAME) (C	RGANIZATIO	N) (DATE)
Edith Cook, Asso	Soli	citor
(BUILDING)	(ROOM)	(PHONE)
Main Labor	4410	2438
REMARKS:		GPO:1964O-730020

With the exception of the counterproposals on the issue of maximum benefit limitation, this now reflects Dept. of Labor's correspondence with Budget of our Federal Employees Compensation Bill.

STAT

Department of Labor

July 28, 1965

HEIDAM BURI FOR MRS. PRIERCON, Assistant Secretary for Labor Standards

Subject: FECA Amendments

(Director, Bureau of Employees 'Compensation)

STAT (Associate Solicitor)

Ca Tuesday, July 27, Tom Tinsley and I conferred with Edith Cook and agreed to the following approach on the proposed amendments to the Pederal Employees' Compensation Act:

I. Harimum Limitation on Benefits -- You will recall that originally we proposed the omission of any maximum to permit compensation rates of up to 75% of claimant's salary. The DOB proposed instead manimum benefits from \$6,300 to \$8,200 a year, or from \$525 to \$ \$553.33 a month, based on an increase in the CPI of 30%.

> (Note: The worst aspect of BOB's proposal is the tie-in with CPI. This formulation can haunt us in any future amendments of the Act. If we must accept a specific dollar figure as a maximum limit, it would be best if the figure were arbitrary.)

Our Counter Proposal

- A. We will seek a compromise with 303 to provide a maximum limitation of awards graduated on a basis of salary as follows:
 - 1. 3/4 of full salary through (3-12 = \$7,688
 - 2. 2/3 of full salary for 65-15 = \$ 8,904

::-14 = \$10,301

- 1-15 - 011,828

3. 2/3 of the base salary of GT-15, plus-25% of the difference between the base 60-15 calary and that paid to grades GS-16 through GD-18:

6.-15 = 612,446 6:-17 = 913,074

(J-10 = \$13,838

Mrs. Peterson

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(Note: This alternative would help AID, FAA and CIA.
This would also appear to accord with the
comments on our proposal made by CEA to FCB.



B. If Budget does not accept proposal A above, then we fall back on a fixed dollar maximum which we propose should be \$750 a month and \$9,000 a year. (Tom tells me that this would take care of 90% of our cases, but it would not take care of the high-salaried employees with whom AID, FAA and CIA are concerned.)

The difference in cost between the BOB proposal and our two alternatives is small. The BOB proposal is estimated to cost about \$1 million a year; our \$750 alternative would cost about \$250,000 more, and our graduated salary proposal would cost about \$1,000,000 more than the BOB proposal.

II. Increase in Previous Awards -- As you will recall, our original proposal was to increase prior awards on the basis of Federal salar increases. This would mean an increase of 80% from the '49 level.

(1) DOB proposes a 30% increase based on the CPI. We agreed to accept DOB's proposal as an interim measure.

The are abandoning a proposal to give the Secretary authority to take increases in previous and future ewards based on changes in the CPI. We are making this concession also on the assumption that this is temporary legislation.

- III. For Children from Age 18 to 23 -- RCB concurs with our proposal tentend benefits to survivors' children to age 23 for education. BC suggested, however, that the terms "education" and "educational institutions" be defined, as suggested by BCM, along the lines of H.R. 6675. We believe that the definitions should be left to regultion, which probably would accept those in H.R. 6675, but will retailed the flexibility.
- IV. Other -- There are no disputes with respect to the following proposals:
 - A. To increase minimum benefits from \$180 to \$210 per month.

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	To increase attendant's allowances	T)	
	The scheduling of compensation awards and medical services for retirement systems.	C.	
	The rule-making authority of the Secretary.	D.	i.
	The elimination of the provision in section 6(a)(1) of the Lact which limits the payment of additional compensation for dependents to 75% of the first \$420 of an employee's basic pay; 35-2/3% of balance.	1.0 2.3 4	The first warm of the first warms with the
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ry)	Cacting Deputy assistant Secreta		